

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Restriction action dated 19 June 2003 held that pending claims 4-9 to represent 64 patentably distinct species of cytokine receptors, and claims 1-3 and 10-26 to be generic. The applicant was required under § 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution. A complete response must identify the elected species as well as provide a list of all the claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added.

In response, applicants herein elect the species of cytokine trap directed to interleukin-18, as recited in pending claim 9. Accordingly, claims 1, 13 and 26 are amended to recite a multimer capable of binding IL-18; claims 2, 3, 10, 12, 15, 16, are amended to remove multiple dependency; claim 19 is amended to recite the limitations of claims 19-24 as a Markush group; claims 4-9, 20-24, and 27-28 are cancelled. New claims 29-32 and 34-35 are supported in the specification at page 29, lines 21-25; and new claim 33, drawn to a dimeric IL-18 inhibitor, is supported throughout the specification, including at page 5, lines 7-8; page 26, lines 15-20 (cytokine antagonist); page 25, lines 14-17 (dimeric). All of the now pending claims read on the elected species, a cytokine trap directed to IL-18.

No new matter is added by the claim amendments and new claims, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter them.

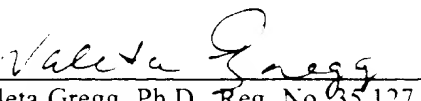
Conclusion

It is believed that this document is fully responsive to the Restriction requirement raised in the Restriction action dated 10 July 2003. In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully urged.

Fees

This paper is submitted in connection with the above-identified U.S. patent application as a response to the Office Action which was mailed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on 19 June 2003, which set a one month period for response. Accordingly, this Response is being filed before the end of the one month extension period of 19 August 2003, and a one month extension fee of \$110 is due. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account Number 18-050 in the amount of \$110, or any other fees deemed to be due.

Respectfully submitted


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